





## FIERCE FLAMES.

The Furniture Store of J. B. Dean, on Market Street, Swept Away by Fire.

Sternberg's Two-story Building Badly Damaged and Mrs. Wagner's Millinery Store Burned.

Mr. Dean and Family Barely Escape With Their Lives, Dressed Only in Their Night-clothes.

Three Alarms Bring Out Every Engine in the City to Fight the Encroaching Flames.

LOSS ABOUT \$50,000.

Louisville was visited this morning by one of the largest and most destructive fires that she has had for a long time. As the City Hall clock was striking the hour of two, Officer Winn, in passing up Market street, discovered a blaze in the narrow alley between Dean's furniture store and Beckman's grocery establishment.

The blaze was already a large one, and had seized upon the furniture store evidently with the determination of burning it down. The officer immediately turned in two alarms, to which the engines promptly responded. When they arrived, however, the flames had gained great headway and had mounted up the sides of the building and were licking the sky over that which was blowing almost a gale made the flames all the fiercer and hotter, and they spread rapidly and took hold upon the adjoining building east of the furniture store, occupied by Mrs. M. Wagner and used by her as a millinery store, and the large and handsome structure occupied by David Sternberg, at the corner of Eighth and Market streets. The building in which the fire originated was old and of material that was highly inflammable, and almost before the family of its proprietor, Mr. Dean, who were in the second story, could escape it was one mass of red flames. The members of the family all got out in safety, however, and stood shivering in the cold wind, with only their night-clothes on, watching their home and that of their neighbors burn. The engines did not have sufficient coal at first, and by the delay the fire gained much strength. It looked for a time as though there was going to be a general conflagration, and that all the houses in the neighborhood would be destroyed. The wind blew great clouds of fire fully a square's distance and near the blazing buildings it was one mass of almost inseparable sparks that fell blazing and burning to the ground.

The Government Steamer S. S. Sank.

VICKSBURG, Jan. 1.—The government steam launch Nellie struck a snag this morning near Opossum Point and sank in 60 feet of water. W. J. Patterson, assistant engineer, of St. Louis, and two laborers were drawn.

Lost at sea.

BOSTON, Jan. 1.—A private dispatch states that the ship Adair M. Simpson, from N.Y. to Boston, with sugar, was lost at sea on the passage. The cargo was valued at \$200,000; insured. The crew was saved.

EMANCIPATION day was celebrated yesterday by the colored people of Atlanta, Ga., four thousand turning out. Bishop Turner, colored, in a speech said: "The devil in hell would not make such distinctions against the negroes as are made in this country."

## THE RIVER AND WEATHER.

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE OF LOUISVILLE.

Latitude 38° 14' 53"; Longitude 85° 43' 52".

## RIVER TELEGRAMS.

THE RIVER AT PITTSBURGH.

Special from Pittsburgh.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 1.—River rising 1/2 mile

feet three inches, and there may be ten feet more for the rise runs out. Cloudy and growing colder. The Stockade arrived last night and departed to day at 7 A.M. The Batchelor is due to-night, as also the Graham, but it is expected that the Graham will be considerably behind. The weather to the heavy fog. Monday. The Bells McGowen took a boat of sailors to the island, and it said to be docked in the channel. The Bell Bells will leave for Louisville in the morning, with 10 coal boats. The Locomotive No. 2, Wm. Bonner, and Coal City, it is expected, will also get out on this water with coal tons.

In the excitement, with the people half-cared with fright, and every one intent on his or her personal safety, it was impossible to obtain either the names of these persons or the estimates of their losses.

Mr. Dean is the heaviest sufferer. His stock of goods he estimates at \$20,000, and this was insured for only about two-thirds of the value. He owned the three houses, Nos. 800, 805 and 810, and these he valued at \$20,000 more. This valuation was probably exaggerated, however, and in the estimate of Mr. McDonald, the insurance agent, the property will not reach over \$15,000. It is not known whether or not this was insured. He occupied the upper part as a residence, and, of course, lost all his furniture and other effects.

Mrs. Wagner's stock of goods was worth from \$2,500 to \$3,000, and all will probably be a total loss from fire and water combined. She met with a similar misfortune last spring, and as she was insured then doubtless had it fully insured.

In addition to these there were a number of tenants in the upper parts of the houses, all of whose losses are individually small, but aggregated amounts to a considerable sum. As all are in poor circumstances and this comes on them in the dead of winter, it is peculiarly severe.

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Mr. Dean and his family had a very narrow escape. He was awakened by the barking of his spaniel which had jumped in the bed. Mrs. Dean and a young lady who was clerking for them were so helpless with fright that they were taken out utterly bewildered. Mr. Dean was completely dazed when he realized the full extent of the calamity, and he was on the point of rushing back into the burning building when he was forcibly restrained by friends.

A man named Andrews, who lived in one of the houses, was dragged out, with his wife and children, by Officer Wash. Sinter, at the risk of his own life.

The old building occupied by Dean had quite a history. Forty years ago it was a Universalist church, its congregation being the only one in the city. But the members let their interest die out after a while, and the church was given up, the denomination ever since being without a place of worship in this city. It was then occupied for a few years by the Methodists, after which it was empty for a long time. Mr. Dean then bought it, and built the frame additions, besides otherwise improving it.

A Negroe Will.

The New York Sun publishes the following curious document: "Neggah will" which it says was recently discovered in the records of the Surrogate's office in that city. The will was offered for probate on January 27, 1871, and is as follows:

LAST WILL OF SOLOMON S. HASTINGS.

New York, Jan. 27, 1874.—I, Solomon S. Hastings, do make and publish this my last will and Testament. I give and bequeath all my estate, both real and personal, to my dear friend Alex. J. H. Howell, of Grand street, New York, that he does not keep the sidewalk too warm, I also leave to my friend, John Francis Morris my old coat and also my old hat, Paul and shoes, Second—Bequeath to my friend Joseph J.

Every room in Fourteenth street, and so on in Sixth and Eighth avenues, profiting he never saves more than 100,000 dollars he has followed to follow his interests.

Third—I bequeath to my dearest of friends Charles Alexa for my son, his Gilligan's Flirt, and also my chance of catching out. I Guess God will catch a chink as I said.

Fourth—I bequeath to my son, the Clerk of Coroner if he can steal a 100 pieces of snuff, etc. for the State of New York.

Fifth—All the rest of my property I leave to my beloved Ida Hobbs, and I also leave her my dear friend John Clark. Witness my seal,

SOLOMON S. HASTINGS,  
JAMES LEE, Witness.  
JOHN MURPHY, Witness.

## CONFLAGRATIONS.

The Total Loss By the Conflagration, Ga., Fire \$30,000.—Twenty-five Buildings Burned at Howard City, Mich.

## OTHER FIRE LOSSES.

Special to the Courier-Journal.

COVINGTON, Ga., Jan. 1.—A fire last night originated in R. W. Bagby's bar-room, caused by a defective stove flue. The center of the block was consumed, including the court-house, Henry Horton, bar-room and restaurant; R. W. Bagby, bar-room; W. F. Wells, Postmaster and fancy groceries; J. W. Levy, jeweler; M. D. Stockwell, bar room; Geo. Johnson, colored, barber. All partially insured.

COL. CEPERS DICKSON's entire law office, books, papers, etc., burned.

The records of court and county land were almost entirely destroyed.

The Enterprise office and outfit was burned as follows:

Charles Hulme, building occupied by Dearing and Enterprise office, \$1,500.

Dearing's stock, valued at \$7,000; insurance, \$3,100, in the Home Insurance Company, of New York.

Sims & Sims, a firm, \$1,000.

Higgins, dentist, \$200.

Horton, \$200.

Brooks & Ivy, in building occupied by Horton, \$1,000.

Bagby's loss in building and goods, \$3,000.

Most of the mail matter in the post-office was saved.

Pitts, in house and goods, \$1,200.

The court house is estimated at \$15,000, partially lost.

Total loss, \$60,000; insurance, \$7,000.

The M. & J. SHOUP at SFDALE, Mo.,

Mr. Lutz, Jan. 1.—The loss by the burnings of the building, carpenter and upholstering shop of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railway at Sedalia, Mo., yesterday morning is now said to be less than \$50,000 and fully insured.

AT THORNDIKE, MASS.

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 1.—The Thorndike Company's cotton mill at Thorndike burned, but W. Wilson, the company's agent, fell dead of heart, and lay on the roof fighting the flames. Loss, \$60,000; insured.

AT HOOTON, MASS.

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AT HOWARD CITY, MICH.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Jan. 1.—A Howard City special to the Democrat says: "A fire broke out at 10 o'clock P.M., in Kuppi's grocery, and is still raging and spreading. Several houses have already been burned beside dwelling. Captain's Exchange is threatened." The grand steamship men have been sent to their aid.

A later Howard City special to the Democrat says 25 buildings burned, about two-thirds of the business part of the town. Loss, \$75,000—insurance, \$50,000. Both sides of Main street, from the depot to the hotel, except Collier's Exchange, burned. The burned district will be rebuilt with brick at once.

AT Vicksburg.

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